

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1074
By Phelan

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Chancellor Marion
Herron Holmes, Jr. of Trenton.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Chancellor Marion Herron Holmes, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor Holmes was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a native of Gibson County, Marion H. Holmes, Jr. was born to M. H. Holmes, Sr. and Maude Dew Holmes on March 21, 1914; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated and proficient scholar, Mr. Holmes completed his undergraduate degree at Memphis State University and earned his law degree from Southern Law School in 1941; and

WHEREAS, a patriot of this great nation, Mr. Holmes bravely served his country as a Captain in the United States Army Air Corps during the Second World War; and

WHEREAS, upon his discharge from the Army Air Corps, Mr. Holmes established his law practice in Trenton and practiced law there for over 25 years; he was appointed General

Sessions Judge for Gibson County in 1967 by Governor Buford Ellington and served with integrity and probity in that position until 1978; and

WHEREAS, in 1971, he was appointed as the Trenton City Attorney by Mayor Leo Manass and diligently served in this position for five years; and

WHEREAS, in 1978, Governor Ray Blanton appointed Judge Holmes as Chancellor of the 28th Judicial District; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Holmes served with distinction as the Chancellor of the 28th Judicial District, which encompasses Crockett, Gibson and Haywood Counties, until he retired in 1992; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor Holmes was a valuable member of the bench; he earned the unbridled respect of the lawyers and other parties appearing before his court for his dedication to justice and equity for all; and

WHEREAS, he was an active and devout member of the First Presbyterian Church of Trenton, where he served as a member of the Board of Elders and as Choir Director for nearly forty years; prior to his death, a window at the church was dedicated in Chancellor Holmes's name in appreciation for his many years of faithful service; and

WHEREAS, an active member of the community, Chancellor Holmes participated in numerous civic organizations, including the Trenton Lodge No. 1279 of the B. P. O. E. where he served as Exalted Ruler, and the Lions Club; he also was a founding member of the Pinecrest Country Club and served as Co-Grand Marshal for the Trenton Teapot Festival; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents, M. H. Holmes, Sr. and Maude Dew Holmes, and his brother, Joe Dew Holmes, Sr.; and

WHEREAS, Marion Holmes will be greatly missed by his sisters, Martha Ann and Maude Dew Holmes; and

WHEREAS, he will be fondly remembered by his nephews, Joe Dew Holmes, Jr., Marion H. Holmes III; his great-nieces, Lynn Mathes and Christina Crane; his great-nephew, Stephen Lee Holmes; his great-great niece, Ragan Elliot, and his great-great nephew, Ben Elliott; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor Holmes leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Chancellor Marion Holmes, Jr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character, his exemplary service to his fellow citizens on the bench, and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Chancellor Holmes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.